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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/528,282	03/16/2005	Mack Arthur Vines	VOI0444.US	6623
41863 7590 02/22/2007 TAYLOR & AUST, P.C. 142 SOUTH MAIN STREET P. O. BOX 560 AVILLA, IN 46710			EXAMINER MUROMOTO JR, ROBERT H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3765	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		02/22/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/528,282	VINES, MACK ARTHUR	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Robert H. Muromoto, Jr.	3765	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 November 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schroder et al., US patent 5,343,896.

Fig. 3a clearly shows MD yarn pair with yarn 14 vertically stacked with yarn 15; this arrangement inherently provides abrasion resistance to yarn 15, as claimed.

Referring to figure 1, yarns 11 and 13 are one CD system, while yarn 12 is the other CD system (single yarn). Figure 1 clearly shows these two systems alternating and yarn 11 (upper) stacked on yarn 13 (lower) as claimed.

The MD yarns are provided in two systems as claimed. Yarns 14, 16, 18 (upper) being one and Yarns 15, 17, 19 (lower) being the other. Figure 1, clearly shows yarn 14 from upper system being stacked over yarn 15 of lower system as claimed.

Both MD yarn systems disclose the limitations with regard to yarn location in the weave structure as recited in claims 6, 7, and 8.

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'896 clearly discloses the use of flat MD yarns woven with round CD yarns for more control of fabric permeability. '896 also clearly discloses the affect of aspect ratio of the MD yarns on the fabric permeability and discloses that modification can result in any desired end use fabric permeability, with the preferred range being 2:1 to 6:1.

'896 discloses many embodiments with permeability ranges within the ranges recited in claims 14 and 21.

"896 discloses many embodiments with CD yarns in the ranges recited in claims 12, 13, 19 and 20.

The only limitation not explicitly stated is the newly amended limitation to the independent claims that the weave repeat is designed to be in a 4 Machine Direction yarn repeat.

However, '896 clearly teaches, "As will be recognized by those skilled in the art, the disclosed weave pattern with respect to FIGS. 1, 2, and 3a, results in the top surface of the fabric having a twill pattern. Although the two-float twill pattern represented in FIGS. 1, 2, and 3a is a preferred embodiment, **it will be recognized by those of ordinary skill in the art that the length of the float, the number of MD yarns in the repeat, and the ordering of the MD yarns may be selected as desired so that other patterns, twill or non-twill, are produced.**"

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the number of MD yarns in a weave repeat pattern of a papermaker's fabric as this is considered to be and obvious variant and common practice in the art of papermaker's fabric production.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 11/22/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Previous 112 rejections have been overcome by applicant.

Applicant has amended independent claims to include the limitation that the weave repeat is a 4 MD yarn repeat. This type of modification is considered to be an obvious variation to any woven fabric, as evidence, the previous reference clearly states that among other variables the modification of the number of MD yarns in a repeat pattern to arrive at various different weave patterns for papermaker's fabrics is within the knowledge of one of ordinary skill in the art of fabric production.

No other amendments or arguments are presented therefore the rejection as stated above in response to applicant's amendment is final and considered to be proper.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the

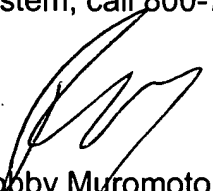
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shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert H. Muromoto, Jr. whose telephone number is 571-272-4991. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-530, M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Welch can be reached on 571-272-4996. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Bobby Muromoto
February 15, 2007
Patent examiner